Sea-Food Industry

189. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sea-food industry is facing any crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to tackle the crisis in the sea-food industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR COMANGO): (a) to (c). Sea Food Industry in the country is predominently based on fishing in coastal waters and in deep sea and fish processing. While in so far as the fish processing is concerned, no serious crisis has been reported, the deep sea fishing industry faced problems in last few years due to low catch, fall in the price of shrimp in the intenational market and agitation by a section of crew resulting in idling of vssels. However, the situation in the current year is reported to be better. In order to provide relief to the affcted fishing companies, a scheme of rehabilitation was announced in April, 1991 which is being implemented. The salient features of the scheme are given in Statement given below.

STATEMENT

Salient Features of the Rehabilitation Scheme for Providing Relief to the Sick Deep Sea Fishing Companies.

The main highlights of the scheme are as under:-

a) All those companies in respect of which liability for payment of interest and/or repayment of the principal amount of the loan had commenced before June 30, 1987, would repay the entire overdues on account of interest and principal repayment as on June 30, 1987 before the commencement of the rehabilitation package. Of the total overdues, an amount equivalent to 10% of the overdues would be payable within a month and the balance 90% within six months of the commencement of the scheme.

b) In case of the companies where the payment of interest and/or payment of principal amount of loan had not commenced till June 30, 1987, the concerned Company would pay 25% of the overdues as on June 30, 1990 in the same manner as stated in para (a) above.

c) As a part of the rehabilitation package the penal interest would be waived and interest would be computed at the document rate for the period commencing from July 1987 to June 30, 1991. The interest for the period ending June 30, 1991, thus computed would be capitalised and added to the principal amount of loan.

d) The Govt. of India would consider providing additional loans for financing increase in the cost of the vessel on account of exchange fluctuations in respect of imported vessels where the payment to the yards are outstanding or the vessels are yet to be delivered.

e) The Government of India/SCICI would consider providing additional loans to meet the cost of increase in the cost of indigenous vessel where the payments to the yards are yet to be delivered.

f) The Government of India/SCICI would consider providing additional loan to meet the cost of repair of the vessel owned by companies availing of this rehabilitation package.

g) SCICI would consider providing additional loan for modification/additions of

fishing gear for diversified fishing by the existing trawlers.

Medical Allowance to Workers of Jute Industry

*190. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had issued directives to the jute industries/Indian Jute Manufacturers Association to provide medical allowance for those jute industry workers who are not covered by the Employees State Insurance Scheme or are not in receipt of any kind of medical allowance from any source;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total number of workers covered under the Employees State, Insurance Scheme and the number of workers not covered under ESI, industry-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a). No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The required information about the employees covered and coverable in the surveyed areas, industrywise, is given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

Industry	*No. of employees as on 31.3.91*	
	Covered	*Coverable*
Food, Beverages & Tobacco	4,31,950	72,700
Textiles	16,33,550	1,12,100
Leather & Rubber	2,43,950	47,750
Chemicals & Chemical Products	3,83,900	94,900
Non–Metalic Minerals	2,49,350	71,050
Metalic Minerals	4,97,400	99,100
Engineering	9,84,900	2,05,150
Transport	2,82,100	33,550
Paper & Printing	2,71,250	32,900
Others (commercial establishments, Hotal & Restaurants, etc.)	10,91,650	1,12,050
ALL INDIA	60,70,000	8,81,250

* Identified further in surveys from time to time.